(e) whether Government propose to provide special facilities to such schools in order to bring them under specific category ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Introduction of water harvesting course in universities

3804. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has asked the Universities to introduce the course on rain water harvesting;

(b) whether UGC has promised aid in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) It has been decided, in principle, by the University Grants Commission (UGC) to introduce courses in Water Management/ Water Harvesting in the Universities. The model syllabus, guidelines and the modalities etc. for introduction of these courses shall be finalised in due course of time by the Commission with the help of Expert Committees. After finalization of the guidelines and model syllabus by the Commission, the UGC will invite proposals from all the Universities and Technical Institutes.

Teaching Urdu in Central Schools

3805. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Central Schools which have provision of teaching Urdu language; and

(b) the number of Urdu teachers working in Central Schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.